

Docket No. GB920000110US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: S. Pupin et al.

Group Art Unit: 3729

: IBM Corporation

Examiner: Thiem D. Phan

: Intellectual Property Law

Serial No.: 09/997,622

: Dept. IQ0A, Bldg. 040-3

Filed: 11/29/01

: 1701 North Street

Title: TOOL FOR REWORKING A PRESS  
FIT CONNECTOR

: Endicott, NY 13760

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

8/13/03

(Date of Deposit)

Georgia Y. Brundage

Date

Commissioner For Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated July 22, 2003, Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-10, drawn to an apparatus for reworking a connector attached to an electronic board, classified in class 29, subclass 426.2. This election is made with traverse. Claims 11-12 are drawn to a non-elected invention identified as Group II and drawn to a method for reworking a connector attached to an electronic board classified in class 29, subclass 842.

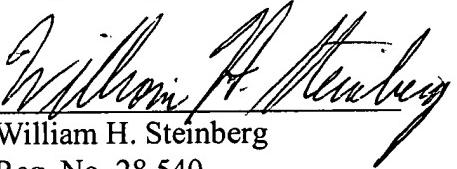
With regard to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter of claims 1-10 and 11-12 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the

remaining claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the search and the examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP § 803, in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits" (emphasis added). Applicants respectfully submit that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Should the Examiner require or request anything further from the Applicants prior to examination, the Examiner is cordially requested to contact the undersigned collect, at the telephone number provided below. Otherwise, Applicants request early and favorable examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/13/03  
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By:   
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